

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS
FACILITIES
OF THE AMERICAN CARRIERS

CONTENTS:

(1) A brief sketch of the organization background and a broad outline of the scope of operations of international communications carriers, including radiotelegraph, radiotelephone and cable.

(2) Charts showing the direct overseas circuits of each of the cable and radio carriers serving the United States.

(3) Charts showing landline relays and the principal trunk line connections for the circulation of cable traffic in Europe, Latin America and Asia.

Compiled by: M. K. Pitts
Domestic Sales Manager

R C A COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

New York, N. Y.

Dated: May 1950

The United States is served by the following International Communications Carriers who provide telegraph or telephone connections with overseas points:

1. International Telephone & Telegraph Co.
(IT&T System) which owns the American Cable and Radio Corporation (AC&R). The AC&R is a holding company which controls three carriers:

All America Cables and Radio, Inc.
Commercial Cable Co.
Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co., Inc.

IT&T also controls and operates another subsidiary, the Commercial Pacific Cable Company, which is owned 25 per cent by American interests and 75 per cent by foreign interests.

2. The Western Union Cable System.
3. The French Cable Co.
4. Tropical Radio Telegraph Co.
5. Globe Wireless, Ltd.
6. Press Wireless, Inc.
7. United States - Liberia Radio Corp.
8. American Telephone & Telegraph Co.
9. RCA Communications, Inc.

American Cable & Radio (IT&T System)

All America Cables & Radio, Inc. operates a cable system connecting with most countries in South America, Central America and the West Indies and also a radiotelegraph service between certain South American countries, and radiotelegraph circuits from certain South American stations to points in Europe. The All America Cable System connects New York and Miami with Caribbean and West Indies points, thence to some Central American points, crosses the isthmus and touches at various South American points on the Pacific ocean until reaching Santiago, Chile, where it connects with land wire lines reaching across South America to Buenos Aires, thence up the Atlantic coast to Rio de Janeiro and other points.

Commercial Cable Company operates six trans-Atlantic cables connecting with Great Britain, Ireland and France and leases cable connections from London to Belgium and Holland. Also a cable from the United States to the Azores Islands, connecting with Italcable and Cable and Wireless cables to Spain and Italy.

Mackay Radio Telegraph Co. operates radiotelegraph circuits to forty odd countries in Europe, South America, West Indies, Africa and Asia; also to Honolulu, Manila, Shanghai and Tokyo. It also operates marine radio stations on both coasts.

Commercial Pacific Cable Company operates a cable from San Francisco via Honolulu, Midway and Guam to Manila. Prior to World War II an extension from Guam to Bonin Island connected with a Japanese cable to Japan and also there was an extension from Manila to Shanghai. The latter two extensions have not been restored. This cable has not been considered very successful commercially as it has been inoperative during a substantial portion of its history for various reasons. Various sections have suffered interruptions at comparatively frequent intervals. This is the only existing trans-Pacific cable from the United States. Fifty per cent of the ownership of this cable is British, 25 per cent Danish and 25 per cent American.

In addition to the foregoing radiotelegraph and cable facilities the International Telephone and Telegraph Co. owns thirty odd manufacturing companies in Norway, Belgium, China, France, Argentina, England, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Poland and the United States. It controls 19 radiotelegraph and telephone companies in Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Spain, Cuba, Peru, Mexico, Uruguay, Puerto Rico, China and Roumania. The IT&T Company, while owned and managed principally from the United States, is primarily international in its organization, scope and aspirations.

The Western Union Cable System, pending divorcement from the present Western Union landline wire monopoly, as required by Act of Congress at the time Western Union landlines were permitted (through special legislation) to absorb the Postal Telegraph Co., is operating a cable system primarily between the United States and Great Britain, connecting with points in Europe; between the United States and the Azores connecting with Cable and Wireless and Italcable to Spain and Italy; and from the United States to Barbados connecting with the Western Telegraph Company which is a part of the British cable system, operated by Cable & Wireless, Ltd., serving various countries in South America.

The French Cable Company is a foreign concern, owned by French interests. For many years they have operated a cable service between New York and Brest, France. Their system consists of slow speed cables running from New York to Cape Cod, thence to St. Pierre-Miquelon and thence to Brest, with further cable connections from France to Great Britain. Also a cable from St. Thomas to the French West Indies, connecting with both All America Cables and Cable & Wireless, Ltd. at St. Thomas.

The Tropical Radio Telegraph Company is a subsidiary of the United Fruit Company. Its services are confined principally to Central America. It also connects with Bogota, Colombia and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In Central America it provides intra-Central American connections superior to those operated by any other carrier. RCA has had contracts with Tropical for many years for the handling of traffic to Central American points originated in the United States via RCA. Tropical operates the Guatemala and Panama terminals of the RCA direct circuits to those countries. Tropical operates stations in Boston, Miami and New Orleans in the United States and also in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras

Republic, Nicaragua and Panama. It also connects from Guatemala City with the government station at San Salvador and from New Orleans and Guatemala City to Belize, British Honduras. The Tropical connections from the United States are:

Boston to:

Preston, Cuba
Managua, Nicaragua
Panama City, Panama
Bogota, Colombia
Guatemala City
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

New Orleans to:

Rio de Janeiro
Havana, Cuba
Managua, Nicaragua
Kingston, Jamaica
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Panama City, Panama
San Juan, P. R. (RCA)
Belize, British Honduras
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Miami to:

Panama City, Panama
Bogota, Colombia
San Jose, Costa Rica

Globe Wireless, Ltd. is a subsidiary of the Robert Dollar Steamship Company operating principally in the Pacific. In recent years a circuit was established from New York to Havana connecting with the Cuba Wireless Co. Globe Wireless operates its own radio stations and public offices in New York, San Francisco, Honolulu and Manila. From San Francisco it connects with its Honolulu and Manila offices and from Manila it runs a connecting circuit to its office in Cebu. It also operates a circuit from San Francisco to Shanghai connecting with the Chinese Government Radio Administration.

Press Wireless, Inc. was originally formed and jointly owned by a group of metropolitan newspapers and press associations and was organized primarily to provide economical volume rates for news services. Stock in this company was originally held by the New York Times, New York Tribune, Chicago Tribune, Christian Science Monitor, Los Angeles Times Mirror, San Francisco Chronicle, Chicago Daily News, Associated Press, International News Service, North American Newspaper Alliance and United Press. It has now been abandoned by its sponsors and operates as an independent radiotelegraph company. It was originally licensed only to

handle press messages, but during the war it was permitted to handle both Government and press messages and this condition still prevails. It operates circuits to important news centers such as: from San Francisco to Tokyo, Shanghai and Manila and New York to London, Berlin, Berne, Geneva, Paris, Rome, Lisbon, Buenos Aires, etc.

United States - Liberia Radio Corporation is owned by the Firestone Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio. It was organized primarily to provide direct radiotelegraph connections from the company's Akron plant to its rubber plantation in Liberia. It operates one radiotelegraph circuit between Akron, Ohio and Harbel, Liberia. Most of the traffic is handled for the Firestone Company. The Federal Communications Commission requires, however, in the issuance of frequencies for point-to-point communication that all radiotelegraph circuits established under F.C.C. licenses shall be made available for public use. Hence, the U. S. - Liberia Radio Corporation, while organized ostensibly for private commercial use is open for use by the public or other commercial interests.

The amount of commercial traffic handled on this circuit, however, is negligible.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Co. is an American company although it owns about thirty per cent of the capital stock of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada and has a partial interest in the Cuban American Telephone Co. It operates almost a complete monopoly of wire telephone communication in the United States and has at present twenty million or more telephone subscribers. It operates in the domestic telegraph field to the extent of providing a nationwide TWX teletypewriter exchange which seriously competes with the present Western Union landline telegraph monopoly. While it does not compete directly with the international cable and radiotelegraph carriers in the "record" communications field it does substantially compete with them by providing international telephone services, connecting any telephone subscriber in the United

States via radiotelephone with any telephone subscriber in nearly every foreign country. AT&T owns and operates numerous international radiotelephone circuits for this purpose and depends to a certain extent on connections with international radiotelephone circuits of RCA and other radio carriers. AT&T radiotelephone circuits reach from New York to such cities as London, Berlin, Lisbon, Berne, Rome, Madrid, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and Lima. From Miami they operate radiotelephone circuits to Central American countries and the West Indies. From San Francisco they operate circuits to Honolulu, Tokyo, Shanghai, Manila, Bandoeng and Sydney.

RCA Communications, Inc. had its beginning in late 1919 when, upon recommendation by U. S. Navy officials and certain officials of the United States Government, among whom was included Mr. Owen D. Young, a new company was formed, known as The Radio Corporation of America, whose primary objective was to take over certain alternator and radio patents and create a completely American-owned system of international radiotelegraph communication.

The United States had just emerged from the first World War during which our government and its fighting forces had realized the urgent necessity for widespread, direct international communications facilities in time of global conflict. For purposes of national defense it became abundantly clear that the United States must establish its own network of worldwide connections under control of interests in this country completely apart from and independent of the cable lines owned by various foreign interests. The importance of the creation of this new American-owned system of worldwide communication may be realized from the fact that, prior to formation of RCA, the United States had direct cable connections with only two European countries, Great Britain

and France, and with relatively few nations elsewhere. Most of the world's cable lines, past and present, have been and are owned and controlled by foreign governments or foreign interests. The history of the Radio Corporation from that day to this has been a transition of America's position of complete dependence upon foreign communications lines to a position of complete independence and leadership in the field of international communications today. This period has witnessed the United States becoming the communications capital of the world. Radio communication has progressed from the humble 18 to 30 words per minute common in 1919 to the ultimate of all recorded communication in 1949, one million words per minute possible today via RCA ultra-facsimile. From 18 words to 1,000,000 words in 30 years, that is the story of RCA and the progress of radio communication.

Many important byproducts, offshoots and public services have grown from the original RCA, including broadcasting networks, manufacturing of receivers, transmitters and radio equipment of all kinds, radio-phonographs and recordings, ship-to-shore communications, motion picture sound on film, research laboratories, ultra-high frequency telegraph communication and television. These various activities have grown to such a degree that it has been necessary to incorporate the principal activities into separate operating companies. Because of this, in the year 1929, RCA Communications, Inc. was formed to take over all of the business in trans-oceanic communications.

The Radio Corporation of America is American-owned, operated and directed and there are provisions in its charter guaranteeing that it will continue to remain so.

RCA Communications, Inc. operates 80 radiotelegraph circuits connecting the United States directly with 66 foreign countries.

RCA Communications, Inc. provides more direct connections from the United States than any other single carrier.

Comparisons of competitive services.

Strictly speaking the rates and classes of service rendered by all international carriers are identical; that is, each carrier offers a full rate, CDE (5 letter code) rate, deferred rate and nightletter rate. "Government" messages are handled in full rate and the CDE classifications. Also special press rates are offered. All of these classifications are governed by international telegraph regulations as to method of charging, priority of handling, delivery, etc. The foregoing message classifications will be altered to fit a new pattern on July 1, 1950, at which time a unification of the full rate and the CDE (code) rate will take place and the "Deferred" rate will be abolished. The cost per word of commercial messages will then be the same for both code messages and full rate plain language messages and the speed of handling will be identical. This change was decided at the International Telecommunications Conference held in Paris in 1949.

There are certain exceptions to services offered in the foregoing general classifications which may be offered by one carrier and not by another as follows:

RCA Communications, Inc. offers:

Radiophoto and program transmission services to and from a number of countries.

Frequency measuring service.

Leased radio channels for the use of certain airlines, United Nations etc.

"TEX" (teleprinter exchange service) between New York and Holland.

Unilateral press transmissions and volume press service.

Ship-to-shore services (from Honolulu and Manila).

Ship-to-shore services (via Radiomarine Corporation elsewhere).

Mackay Radio & Telegraph Co., Inc offers:

Ship-to-shore services.

Radiophoto (limited extent to South America).

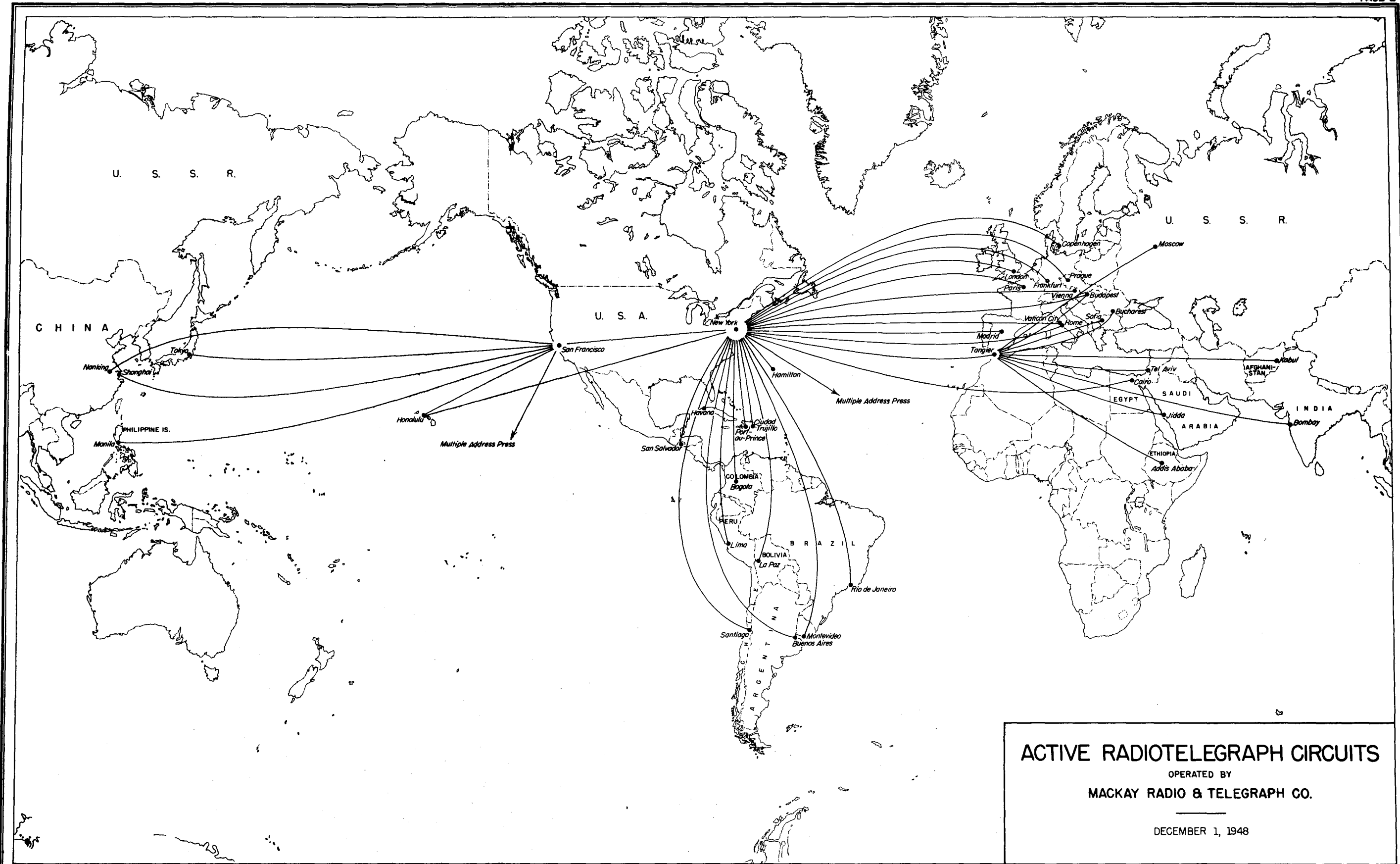
Press Wireless, Inc. (restricted to press and government messages only) offers:

Press radiophotos.

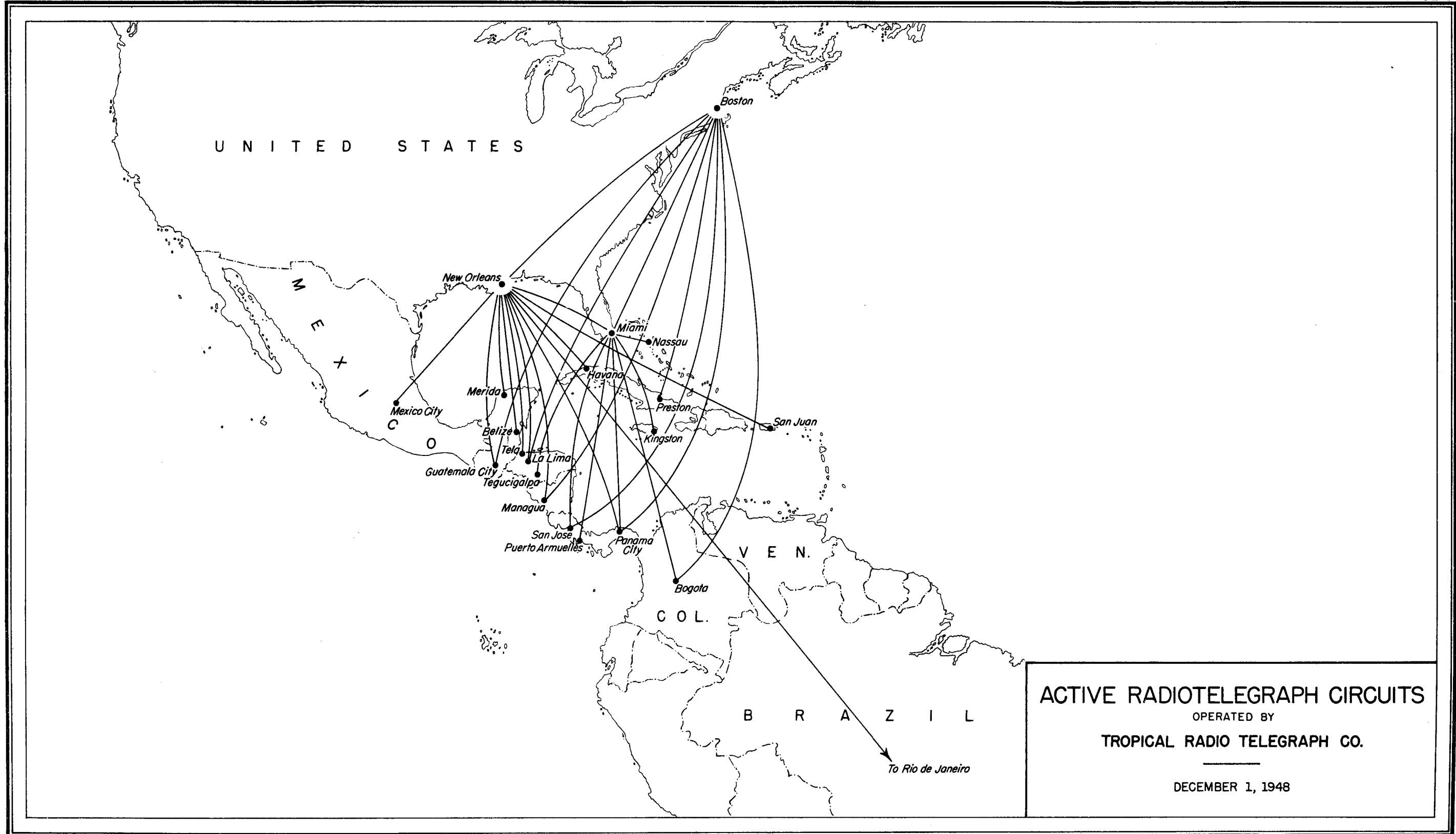
Western Union offers:

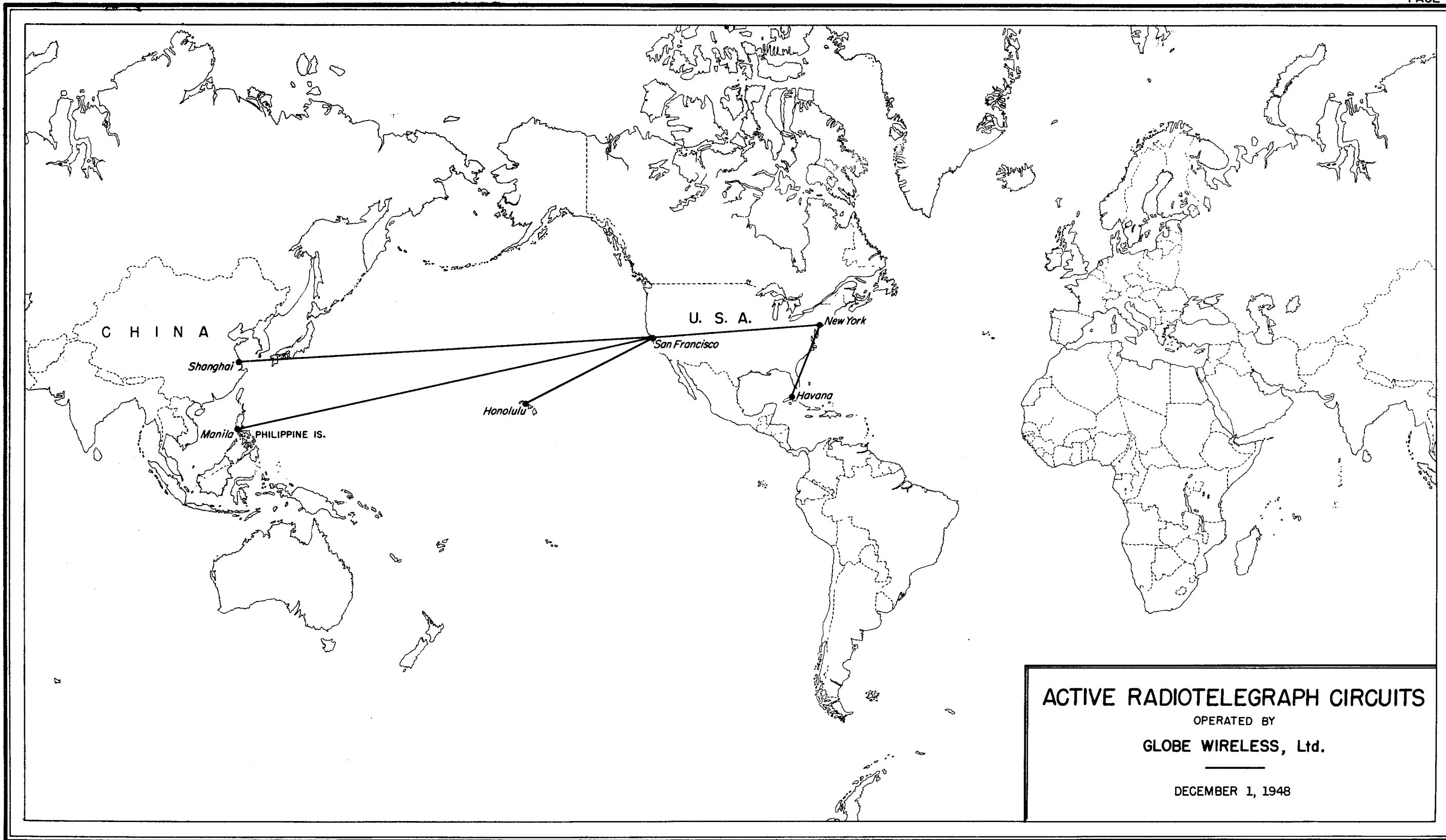
IMCO (International metered communications).

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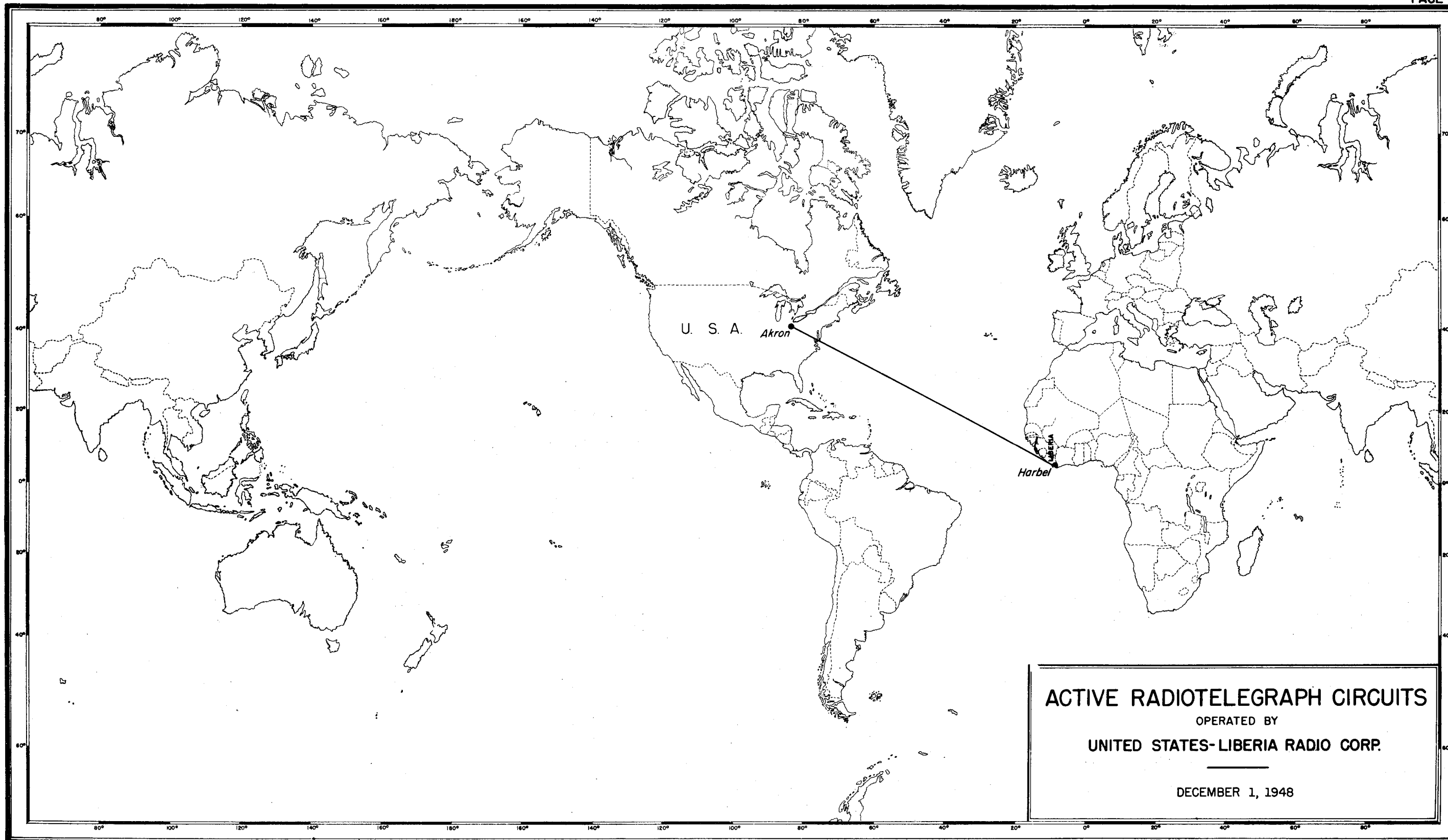


ACTIVE RADIOTELEGRAPH CIRCUITS
 OPERATED BY
MACKAY RADIO & TELEGRAPH CO.
 DECEMBER 1, 1948





ACTIVE RADIOTELEGRAPH CIRCUITS
OPERATED BY
GLOBE WIRELESS, Ltd.
DECEMBER 1, 1948

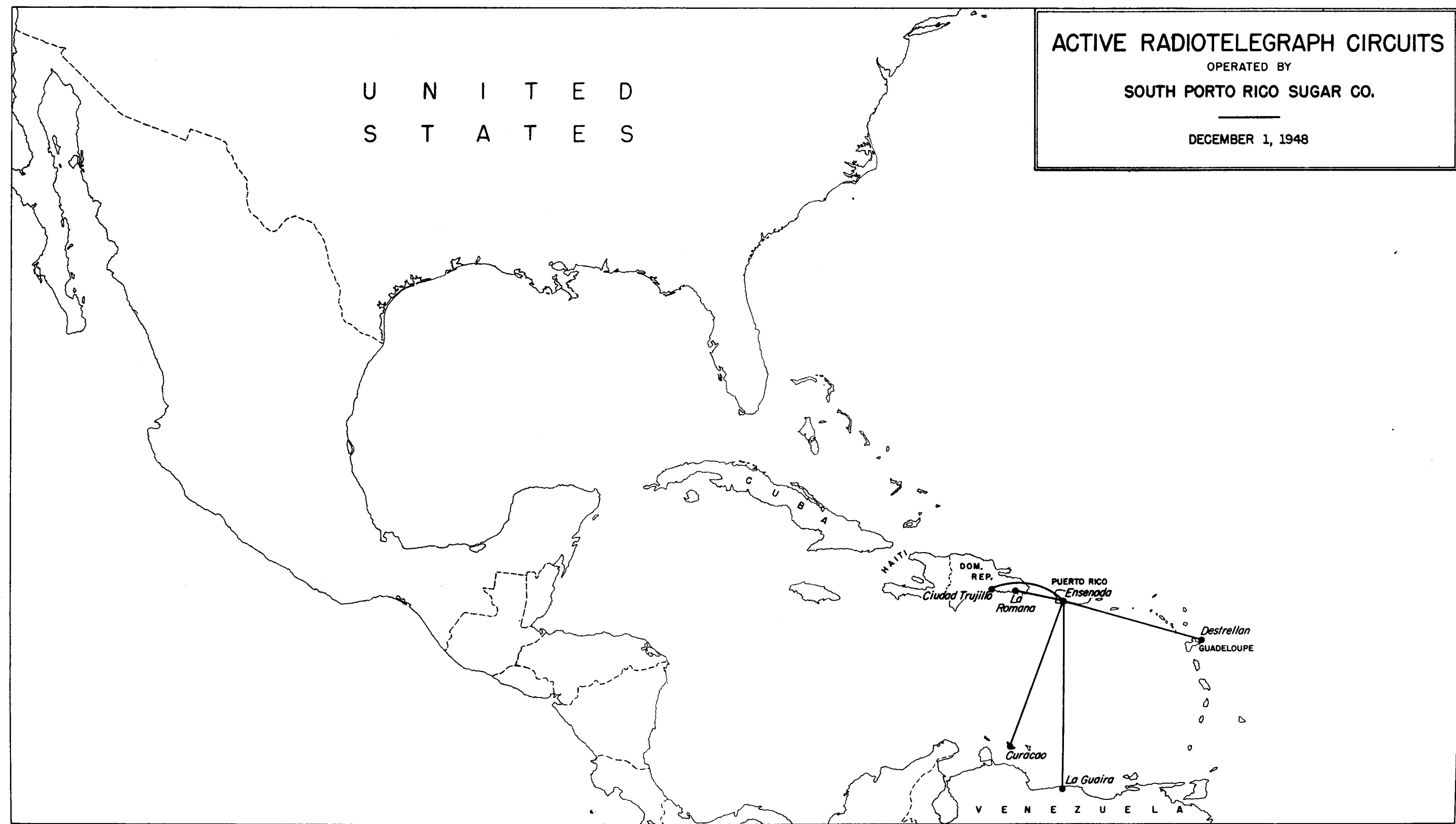


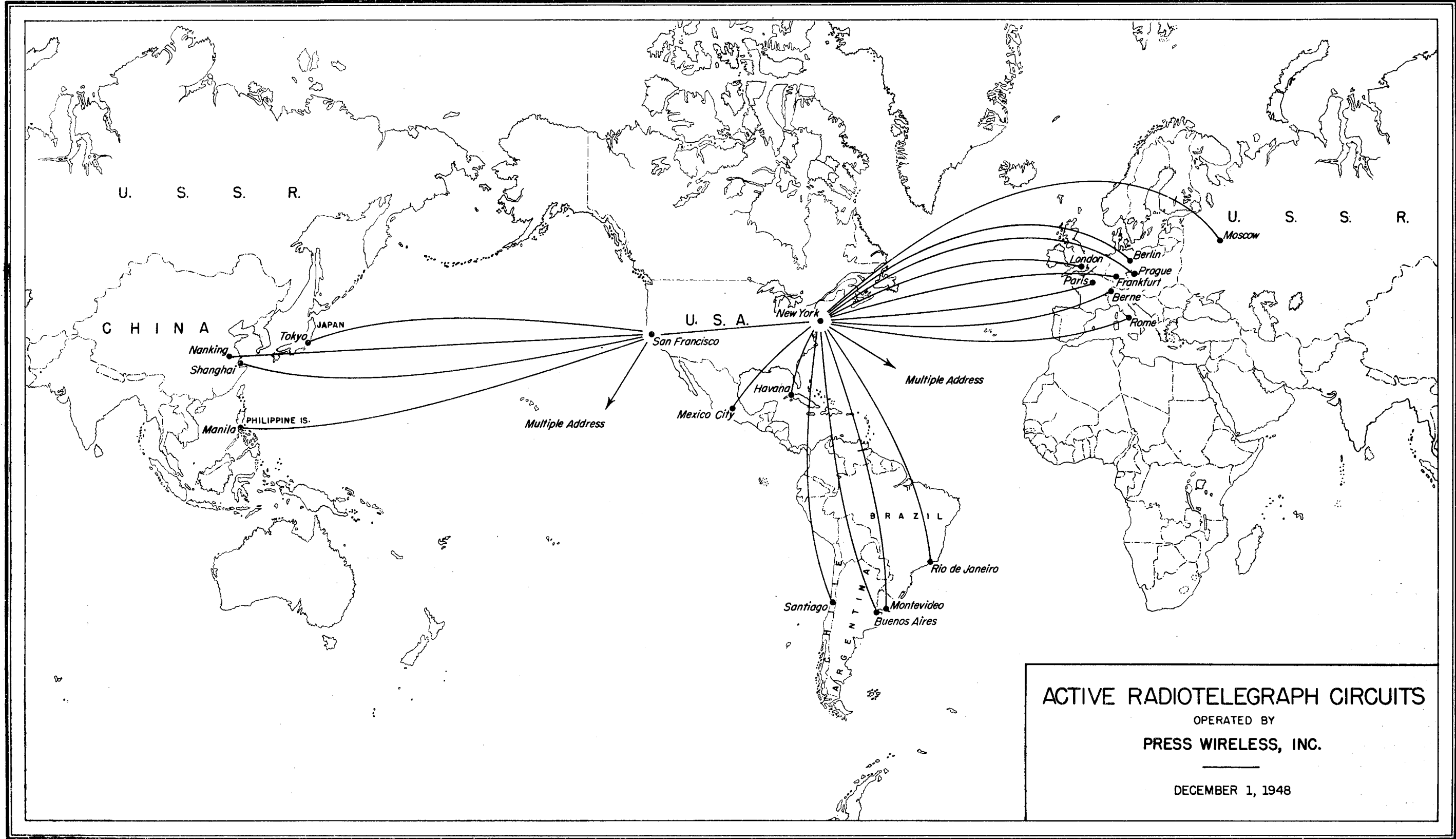
U N I T E D
S T A T E S

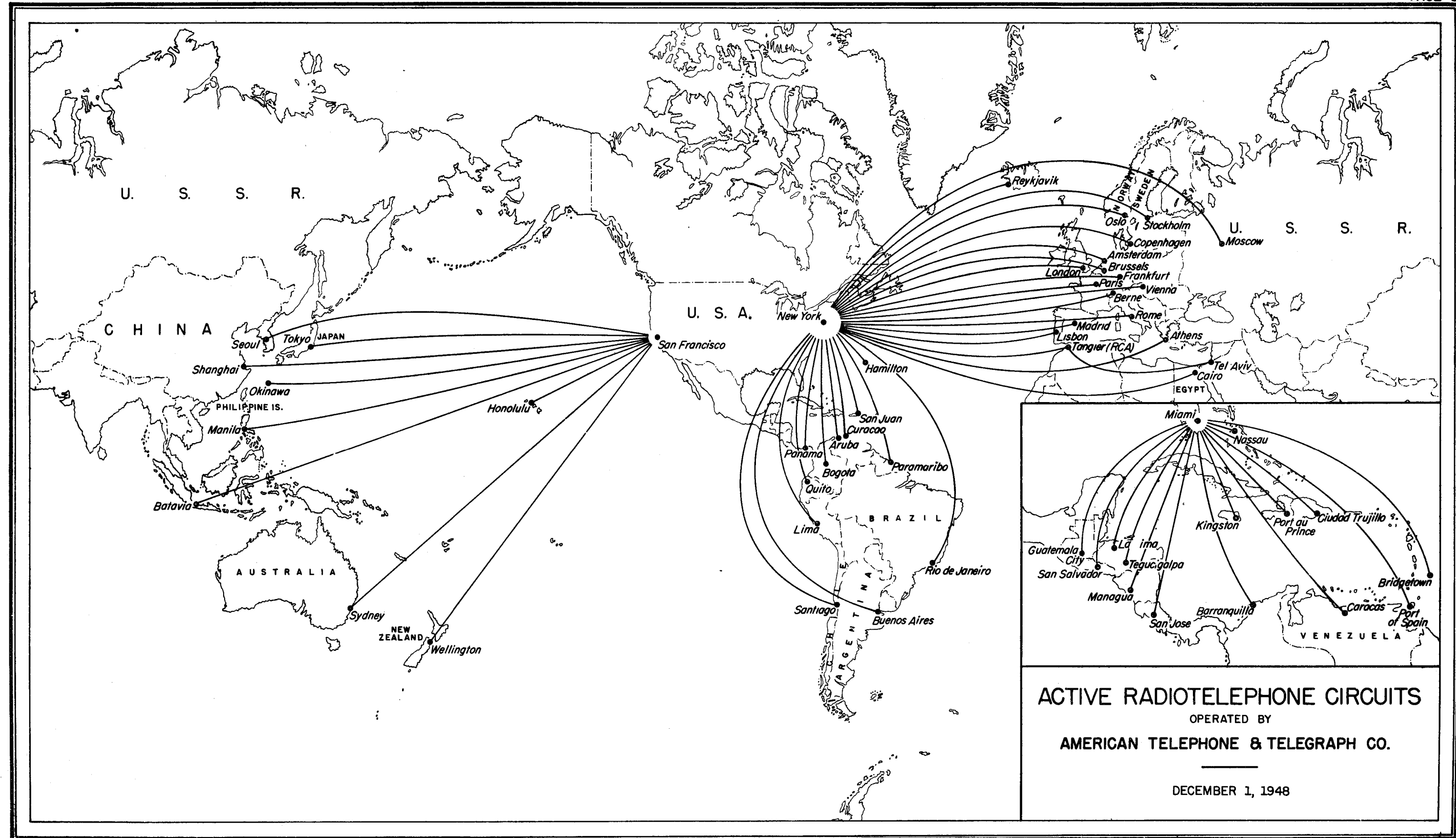
ACTIVE RADIOTELEGRAPH CIRCUITS

OPERATED BY
SOUTH PORTO RICO SUGAR CO.

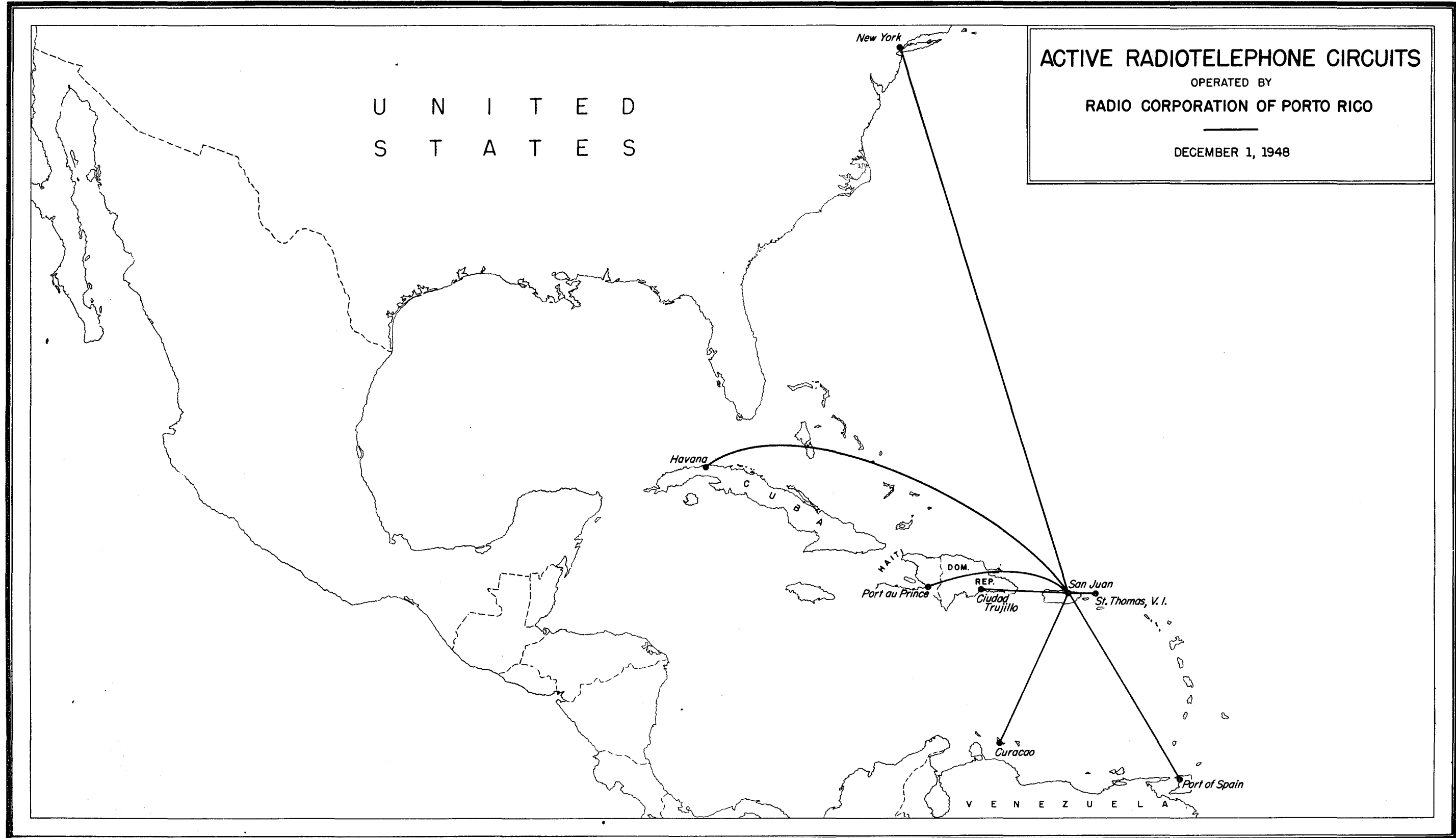
DECEMBER 1, 1948







ACTIVE RADIOTELEPHONE CIRCUITS
 OPERATED BY
AMERICAN TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO.
 DECEMBER 1, 1948

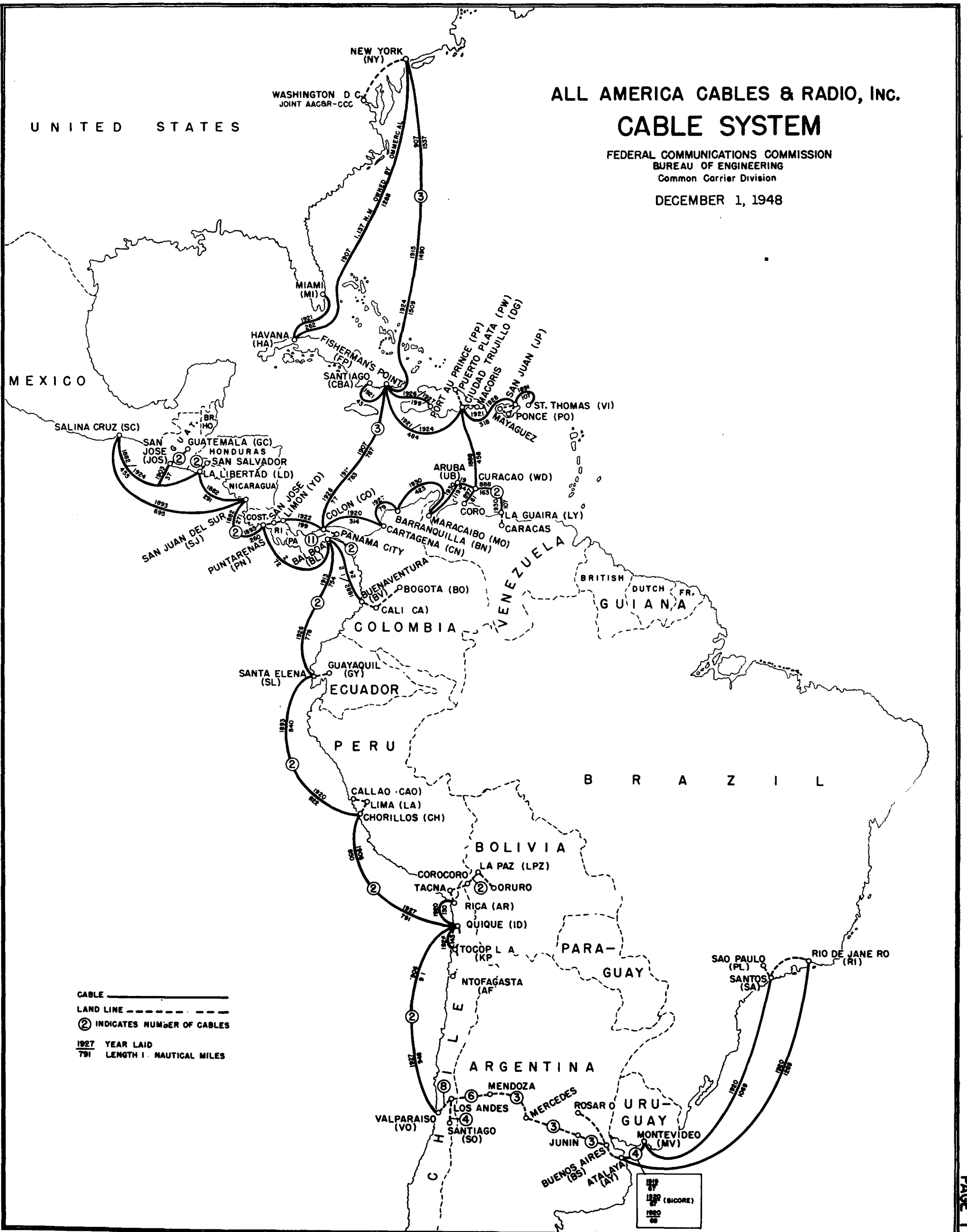


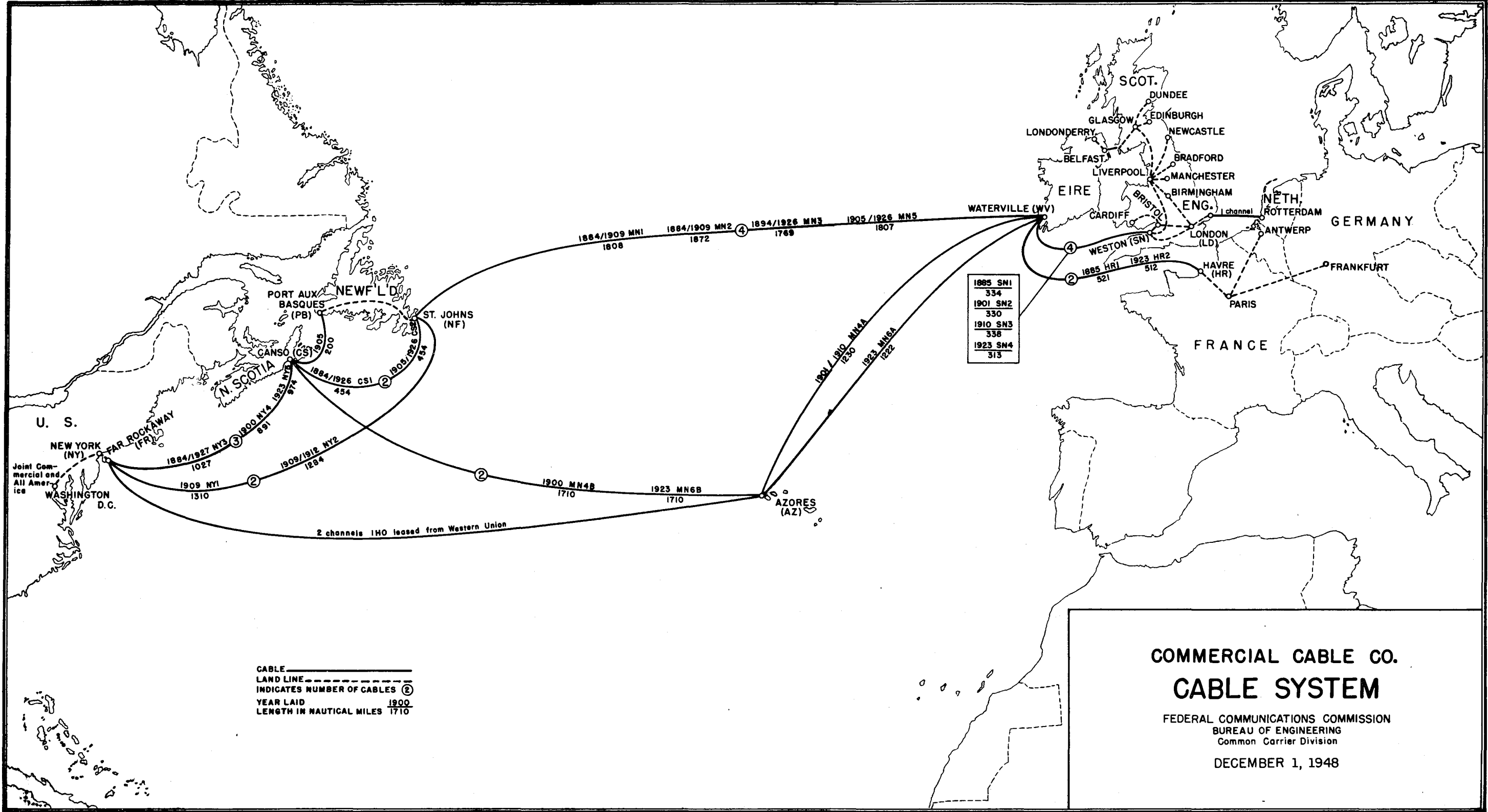
ACTIVE RADIOTELEPHONE CIRCUITS
OPERATED BY
RADIO CORPORATION OF PORTO RICO
DECEMBER 1, 1948

ALL AMERICA CABLES & RADIO, INC. CABLE SYSTEM

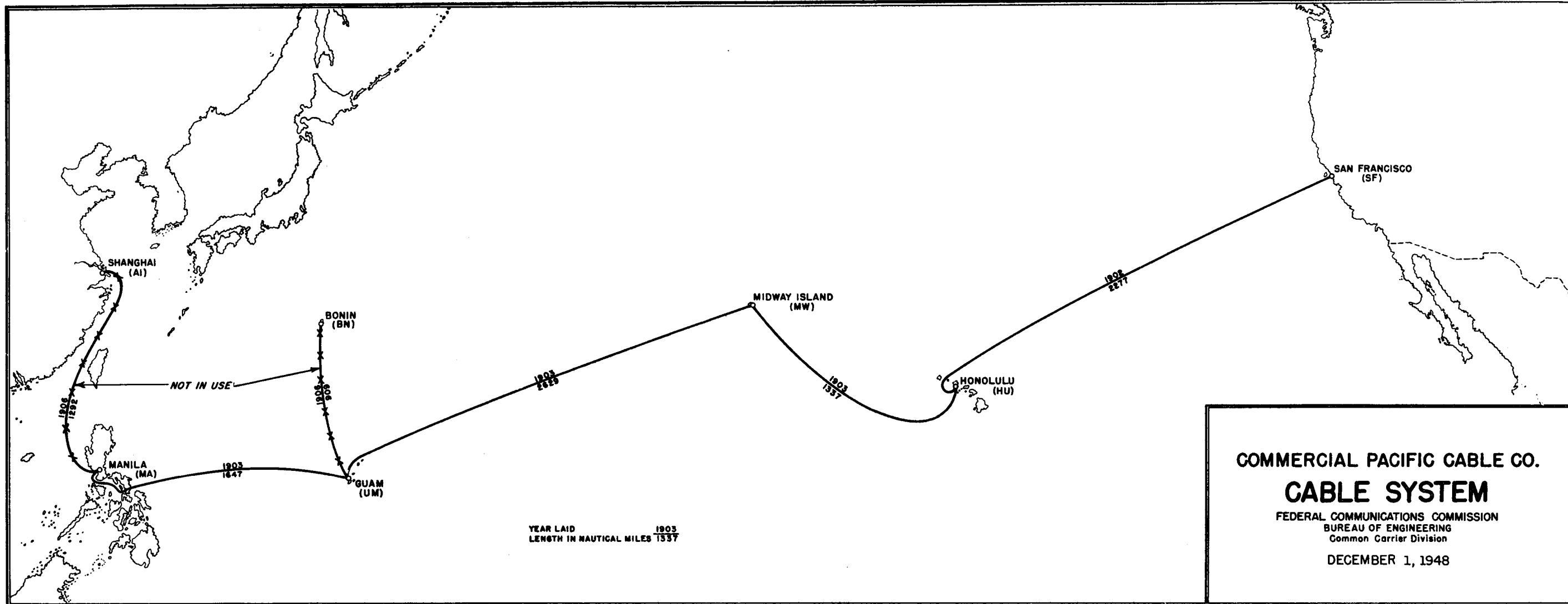
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
Common Carrier Division

DECEMBER 1, 1948





COMMERCIAL CABLE CO.
CABLE SYSTEM
 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
 BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
 Common Carrier Division
 DECEMBER 1, 1948



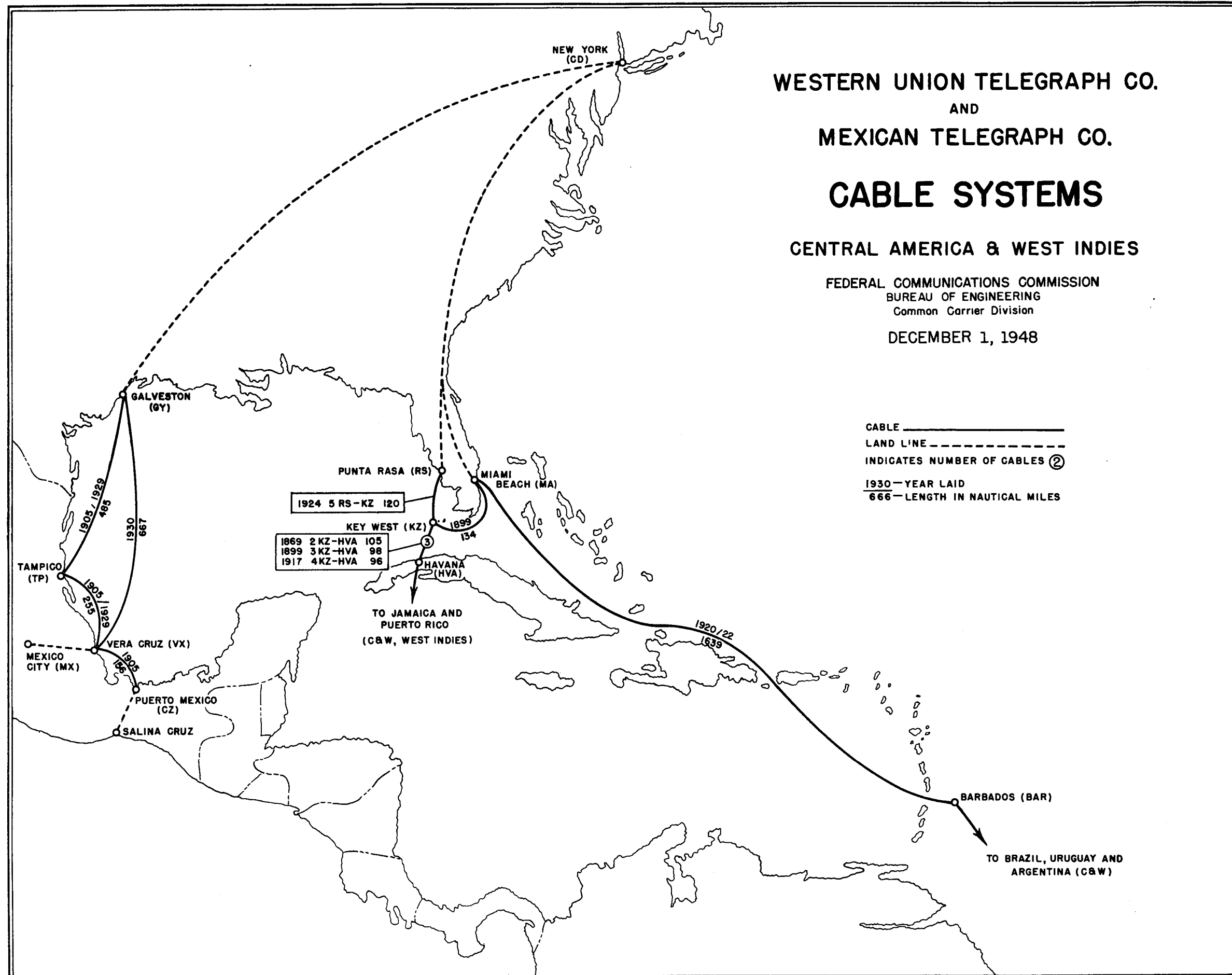
WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO. AND MEXICAN TELEGRAPH CO.

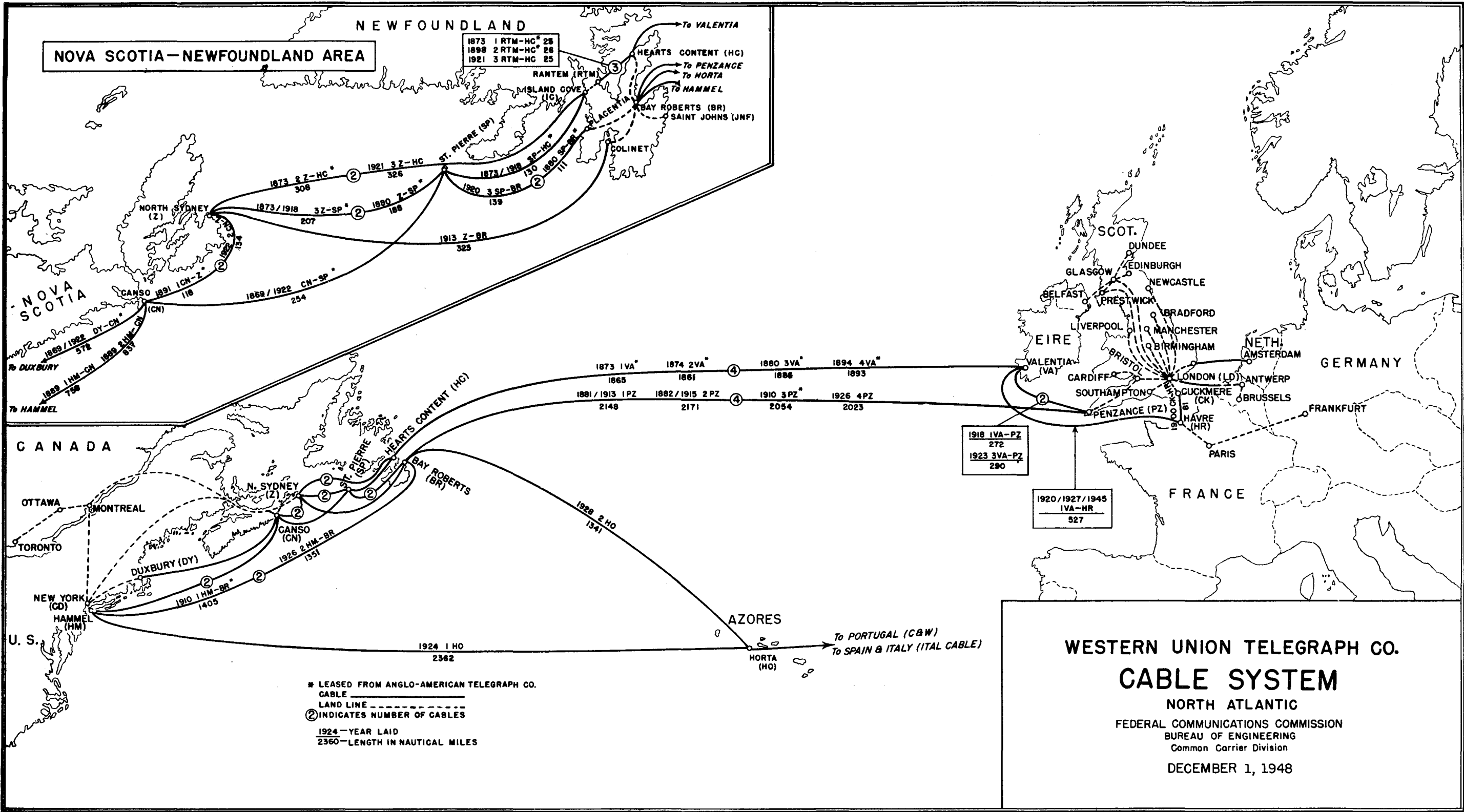
CABLE SYSTEMS

CENTRAL AMERICA & WEST INDIES

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
Common Carrier Division

DECEMBER 1, 1948





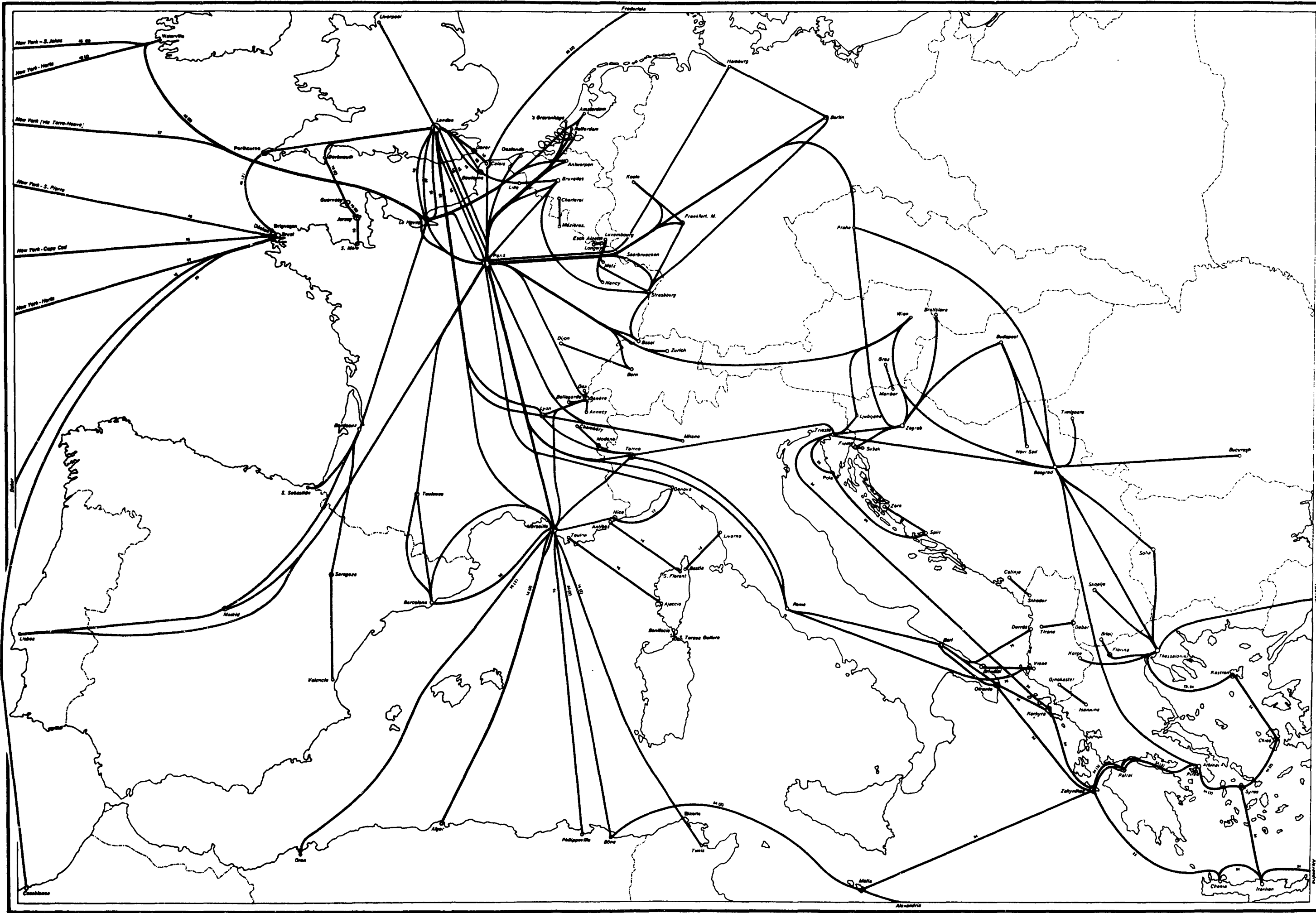
Land Line Relays and Principal Trunk Line Connections
for Circulation of Cable Traffic in Europe, Latin America
and Asia.

The following maps are taken from world charts published by the International Telecommunications Union, Berne, Switzerland, in 1935. While these maps are still accurate in almost every respect there are a few minor variations such as the Commercial Pacific extensions from Gaum to Bonin Island and from Manila to Shanghai which went out of operation in World War II and have not been restored.

The South American chart shows the system of the Western Telegraph Company (owned by Cable and Wireless, Ltd.) with which the Western Union makes connection at the Island of Barbados in order to provide service to South America.

Key to Cable Charts

40. African Direct Telegraph Co.
41. All America Cables, Inc.
42. Cable and Wireless, Ltd.
43. Commercial Cable Co.
44. Commercial Pacific Cable Co.
45. Compagnie des Cables Sud-Americains
46. Compagnie Francaise des Cables Telegraphiques
47. Compania Telegrafico-Telefonica del Plata
48. Cuba Submarine Telegraph Co.
49. Deutsch-Atlantische Telegraphengesellschaft
50. Direct Spanish Telegraph Co.
51. Direct West India Cable Co.
52. Eastern and South African Telegraph Co.
53. Eastern Extension, Australasia and China Telegraph Co.
54. Eastern Telegraph Co.
55. Europe and Azores Telegraph Co.
56. Grande Compagnie des Telegraphes du Nord
57. Halifax and Bermudas Cable Co.
58. Italcable Compagnia Italiana dei Cavi
Telegrafici Sottomarini
59. Mexican Telegraph Co.
60. Overseas Communications of South Africa, Ltd.
61. Pacific Cable Board
62. River Plate Telegraph Co.
63. Societe Anonyme Belge de Cables Telegraphiques
64. West African Telegraph Co.
65. West Coast of America Telegraph Co.
66. Western Telegraph Co.
67. Western Union Telegraph Co.
68. West India and Panama Telegraph Co.
69. Cables not yet assigned.



New York - S. John

New York - Paris

New York (via Faro-Paris)

New York - S. Africa

New York - Cape Cod

New York - Paris

London

Casablanca

Liverpool

London

Paris

Toulouse

Saragosa

Valencia

Alger

Oran

Brussels

Amsterdam

Antwerpen

Charleroi

Metz

Luxembourg

Esch Alzheim

Longwy

Saarbrücken

Metz

Nancy

Strasbourg

Dijon

Basel

Zurich

Bern

Geneve

Annecy

Lyons

Orléans

Modane

Tarino

Milano

Genova

Ancône

Perugia

Assisi

Ugento

Lecce

Hamburg

Berlin

Frankfurt, M.

Wien

Bratislava

Praga

Gratz

Maribor

Ljubljana

Zagreb

Trieste

Fiume

Sofia

Skopje

Belgrade

Novi Sad

Bucuresti

Salonika

Thessaloniki

Kastoria

Chania

Heraklion

Syros

Mykonos

Wien

Bratislava

Praga

Gratz

Maribor

Ljubljana

Zagreb

Trieste

Fiume

Sofia

Skopje

Belgrade

Novi Sad

Bucuresti

Salonika

Thessaloniki

Kastoria

Chania

Heraklion

Syros

Mykonos

Paros

Wien

Bratislava

Praga

Gratz

Maribor

Ljubljana

Zagreb

Trieste

Fiume

Sofia

Skopje

Belgrade

Novi Sad

Bucuresti

Salonika

Thessaloniki

Kastoria

Chania

Heraklion

Syros

Mykonos

Paros

Wien

Bratislava

Praga

Gratz

Maribor

Ljubljana

Zagreb

Trieste

Fiume

Sofia

Skopje

Belgrade

Novi Sad

Bucuresti

Salonika

Thessaloniki

Kastoria

Chania

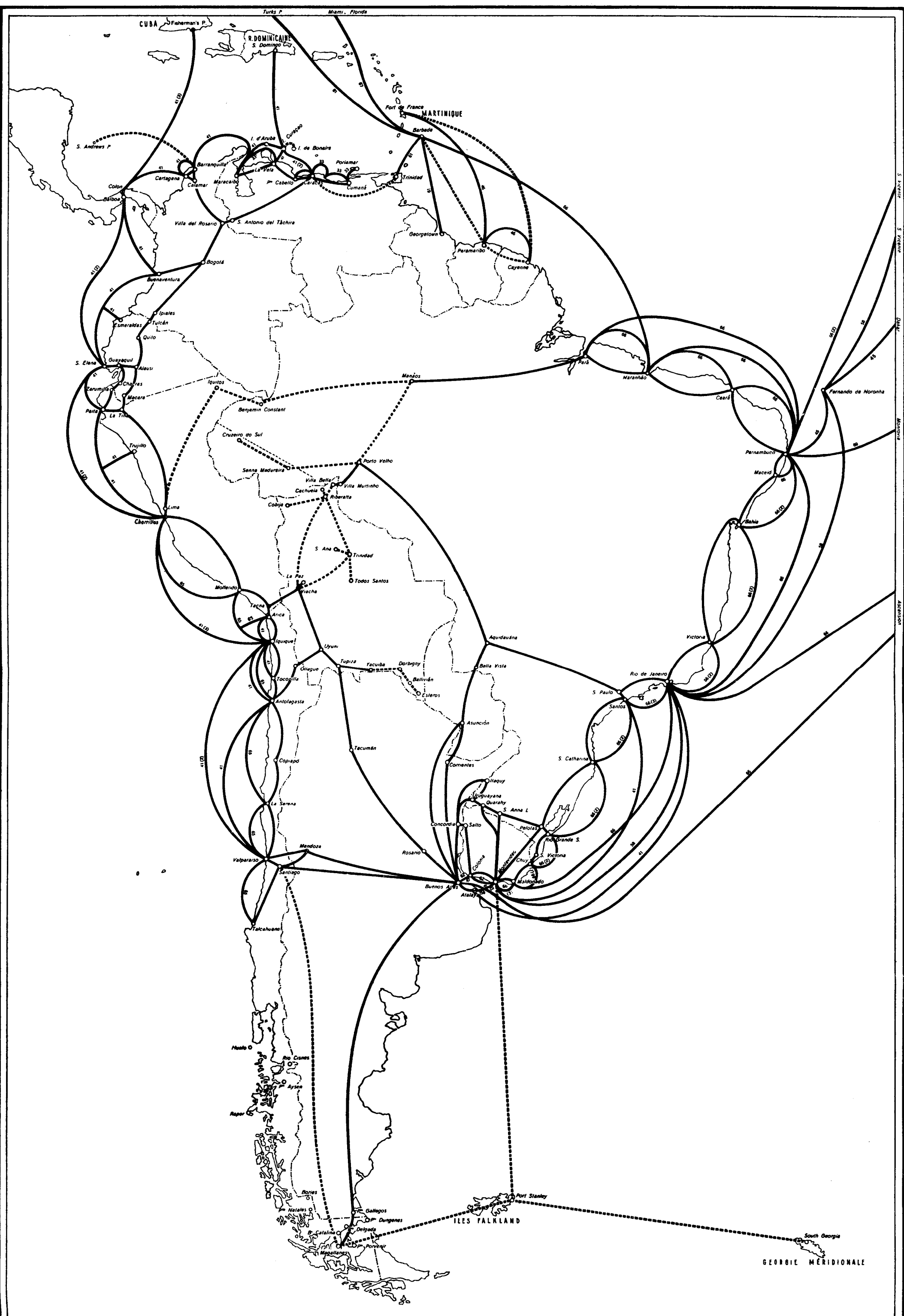
Heraklion

Syros

Mykonos

Paros

Vertical text on the right edge of the map.



CUBA Fisherman's P. **Miami, Florida**

R. DOMINICAIN S. Domingo City

MARTINIQUE Fort de France

Barbade

Trinidad

Georgetown

Paramaribo

Cayenne

Colón

Cartagena

Calamar

Maracaibo

P. Cabello

Caracas

Lumán

Villa del Rosario

S. Antonio del Táchira

Bogotá

Buenaventura

Ipiales

Esmeraldas

Tulcán

Quito

S. Elena

Guayaquil

Alausi

Zarumilla

Chapas

Macara

Paite

La Tiza

Trujillo

Chorrillos

Lima

Manaos

Benjamin Constant

Cruzeiro do Sul

Senna Madureira

Porto Velho

Villa Bella

Villa Murtinho

Cachuela

Riberatta

Cobija

S. Ana

Trinidad

La Paz

Viacha

Todos Santos

Mollendo

Tacna

Arica

Iquique

Uyuni

Órtaque

Tupiza

Yacurba

Dorbigny

Boliván

Esteros

Acquidauña

Bella Vista

Rio de Janeiro

S. Paulo

Santos

S. Catharina

Comentes

Ollaquy

Uruguayana

Quarary

S. Anna L.

Concordia

Salto

Pelotas

Rio Grande S.

S. Victoria

Chuy

S. Victoria

Maldonado

Atafu

Buenos Aires

Rosario

Colonia

Valparaiso

Santiago

Talcahuano

Muelle O.

Rio Cranes

Aysen

Raper

Bories

Natales

Gallegos

Dungenes

Catalina

Delgada

Porvenir

Magallanes

ILES FALKLAND Port Stanley

South Georgia

GEORGIE MÉRIDIONALE

S. Lucia
S. Vincent
D. Mar.
Mauritius
Ascension

